Mr. K. V. ANANTARAMAN.—Government will note the member's suggestion.

Mr. S. L. MUDDUBASAVIAH.—Are the Government aware that private book-sellers are not selling the text-books unless notes thereto are also purchased, and that the dealers are also charging their own rates for the books?

Mr. K. V. ANANTARAMAN.—We shall see that such things do not happen in future.

Reduction of Electric Power Charges in respect of Flour Mills.

Q.—11. Mr. N. SONNAPPA (Chikballapur Taluk).

Will the Government be pleased to state:—

(*a*) whether it has come to their notice that the Electrical Department is levying at the rate of 9 pies per unit for the power supplied to rice mills and at one anna per unit for that supplied to flour mills;

(*b*) whether it is a fact that one anna per unit is being levied in rural parts and taluk headquarters for rice mills as well as flour mills;

(*c*) whether the Electrical Department have permitted the erection of additional flour mills after a single person has executed guarantee in respect of his flour mills?

A.—The SECRETARY to GOVERNMENT, ELECTRICAL DEPARTMENT (Sir Harold N. Colam).—

(*a*) Yes.

(*b*) No. The rate for other than flour mills up to 20 H.P. is 9 pies.

(*c*) Yes, as the applicant agreed to the conditions prescribed by the department.

Mr. N. SONNAPPA.—It is difficult to reconcile the answers to sub-sections (*a*) and (*b*). Why should different rates be charged in different localities? And in one and the same place, is it possible for a poor man to instal two motors one for a rice mill and another for a flour mill?

The FIRST MEMBER (Rajamantrapravina N. Madhava Rau).—If the member brings this matter to the notice of the Secretary to Government, Electrical Department, he will examine the question.

Mr. L. VEMA REDDY.—In the rural parts, electric power is required by flour mills for converting ragi into flour, more than by rice mills. As such, is it not reasonable that the power charges in the case of flour mills ought to be lower than in the case of rice mills?

Mr. N. MADHAVA RAU.—As I already said, the matter will be examined if it is brought to the notice of the Department.

Messrs. Rayara KEMPANNA and JATHARE NAIK.—After the advent of these mills, people in the villages are developing a tendency for leading easy lives. So either the mills should be closed down or the power charges should be sufficiently high, so that the poorer people will not resort to them as a matter of course.

Water Supply Charges in Kolar Gold Field Area.

Q.—12. Messrs. R. RANGIAH and M. MADDIAH (K. G. F Sanitary Board Area).—

Will the Government be pleased to state—

(*a*) (i) the reason for levying a royalty of Rs. 50 for supplying water by pipes to the dwelling houses in Robertsonpet, Andersonpet and Oorgaum of Kolar Gold Fields Sanitary Board Area, (ii) whether this rule is existing in cities or towns elsewhere in the State;

(*b*) (i) the quantity of supply of water allowed free of charge to each house in the above-named places and the rate of tax per 1,000 gallons, (ii) the minium quantity of water allowed free of charge in the cities of Mysore and Bangalore and its rate per 1,000 gallons in these cities;

(*c*) the average annual return for the last 12 years from the Bethamangala water reservoir which supplies water to the K. G. F. Sanitary Board Area?

A.—The SECRETARY to GOVERNMENT, LAW DEPARTMENT (Mr. C. Subrahmanya Aiyar).—

(*a*) (i) The royalty of Rs. 50 per connection is being levied in

Robertsonpet and Andersonpet as per resolutions of the Sanitary Board, Kolar Gold Fields, duly approved by Government. The water supply to Oorgaum village was recently worked out and there are as yet no house connections. The royalty is levied by the Board as they bore the initial outlay. (ii) No.

(*b*) (i) No quantity is allowed free of charge to any house in the above places. The charge for the water supplied is 15 annas per 1,000 gallons. (ii) The minimum quantity allowed free of charge is 3,000 gallons per month in Bangalore and Mysore Cities to domestic connections. Excess over this is charged for at Re. 1-0-0 per 1,000 gallons in Bangalore City, and 12 annas per 1,000 gallons in Mysore City.

(*c*) This question is not clear.

Mr. Ballam SRINIVASA RAO.—For the water supplied to consumers in Bangalore and Mysore Cities, are the Government levying from them anything over and above the charges collected by the Municipalities?

Mr. C. SUBRAHMANYA AIYAR.—The City areas and the K. G. F. areas do not stand on the same footing. The reservoirs from which the City areas get their supplies were constructed at the cost of the Government and the mains were also laid at the cost of Government But in the case of the Bethamangala Water Works, the cost of the mains was borne by the Sanitary Board.

Mr. Ballam SRINIVASA RAO.—Are not the Government deriving an income of Rs. 1·5 lakhs on the investment? What is the justification for levying anything further by way of royalty?

Mr. C. SUBRAHMANYA AIYAR.—Notice.

Mr. Ballam SRINIVASA RAO.—Why is it that in the Sanitary Board area, no free allowance of water is allowed, as in the Cities of Bangalore and Mysore?

Mr. C. SUBRAHMANAYA AIYAR.—Conditions are not the same in the two cases. The Bethamangala Water Works were mainly intended for the Mines. But as the supply is extended, some special charge is levied and the receipts in the shape of royalty also are taken away by the Board. Government are not getting any part of those receipts.

Mr. Ballam SRINIVASA RAO.—The Sanitary Board is in a prosperous condition. Why should it insist on a deposit of Rs. 50 for private connections?

Mr. C. SUBRAHMANYA AIYAR.—That is one of its sources of revenue. It may not be as well off without the royalty.

Mr. Ballam SRINIVASA RAO.—When in the Cities of Bangalore and Mysore, a free allowance of 3,000 gallons of water is given for each house connection and no royalty is charged, what is the justification for treating the Sanitary Board area differently?

Mr. C. SUBRAHMANYA AIYAR.—If the consumption of water in the Sanitary Board area becomes heavy, the supply of water to the Mines, which was the main object with which the Bethamangala Tank was constructed, might fall short of the actual requirements.

Mr. Ballam SRINIVASA RAO.—Is it not possible to show at least one of the two concessions to the Sanitary Board area, *viz.*, either to waive the royalty or to give free allowance as in the Cities of Bangalore and Mysore?

Mr. C. SUBRAHMANYA AIYAR.—Not possible because to that extent, the Sanitary Board loses revenue.

Mr. Ballam SRINIVASA RAO.—We pay house and other taxes just as people in other municipalities do. So we are entitled to similar amenities. We must either be given free allowance or the royalty should be done away with. The Government must kindly take up the matter with the Board authorities since our opinion does not weigh much with them.

The SECOND MEMBER (Mr. K. V. Anantaraman).—We shall examine the matter.

Mr. B. L. BYANNA.—It is stated in the answer that a free allowance of 3,000 gallons is allowed for each installation in Bangalore City. For how long is this in force?

Mr. C. SUBRAHMANYA AIYAR.—For some time past.

Mr. B. L. BYANNA.—What is the reason for reducing the free allowance

from 4,000 gallons to 3,000 gallons in Bangalore City ?

Mr. C. SUBRAHMANYA AIYAR.—The member is already aware of the reasons.

Mr. B. L. BYANNA.—Are the Government not aware that the Bangalore City Municipality pays for every gallon of water supplied to it ?

Mr. C. SUBRAHMANYA AIYAR.—Whatever it pays is paid in accordance with the agreement entered into between the Municipality and the Government.

Mr. B. L. BYANNA.—What is the cost price for every 1,000 gallons of water?

Mr. C. SUBRAHMANYA AIYAR.—Notice.

Mr. B. L. BYANNA.—Was it fair for the Government to have ordered the reduction of the free supply to 3,000 gallons?

The FIRST MEMBER (Rajamantrapravina N. Madhava Rau).—The case of the water supply to Bangalore City is quite different. The present question relates to water supply to Gold Fields.

Mr. B. L. BYANNA.—I only wish to urge that the Government should take a favourable view of the matter. As regards Mysore City Municipality, is it not a fact that the free allowance is 5,000 gallons even now and not 3 000 as stated in the answer?

Mr. C. SUBRAHMANYA AIYAR.—It has been ordered that it should be reduced to 3,000 gallons there also.

Mr. Rayara KEMPANNA.—Why is it that in the Kolar Gold Field area, 15 annas is charged for 1,000 gallons of water as against 12 annas in Mysore City ?

Mr. N. MADHAVA RAU.—The cost of pumping, power expenses, etc , have all been taken into consideration in fixing the rates.

Mr. RANGIAH.—By waiving the royalty, will not the Board be inducing more and more of private people to go in for house connections ?

Mr. C. SUBRAHMANYA AIYAR.—One cannot be so sure about that. People who want the connection, will pay Rs. 50 for it.

Mr. RANGIAH.—According as the number of house connections increases, the quantity of water drawn from the public taps becomes less. So, why not private people be induced to go in for installations by doing away with the royalty ?

Mr. C. SUBRAHMANYA AIYAR.—On the other hand, the total consumption of water will be more, and it is difficult to say if the Sanitary Board will be able to meet the demand.

Mr. MADDIAH.—Why not show to the people of the Sanitary Board area at least the same concession of free allowance as in the Cities of Bangalore and Mysore ?

Mr. C. SUBRAHMANYA AIYAR.—Government supply water to the Sanitary Board which sells it to the consumers. The income goes to the Sanitary Board. If the Sanitary Board passes a resolution in favour of free supply of water, Government may be willing to consider it.

GOVERNMENT BUSINESS—BILLS.

I. General Principles of the Bill for the Registration of Foreigners.

The SECRETARY to GOVERNMENT, LAW DEPARTMENT (Mr. C. Subrahmanya Aiyar) explained the general principles of the bill as follows :—

For the possession at all times of complete information as to the number and whereabouts of foreigners in India, it was found by the Government of India that the existing provisions of law were inadequate. Such information was considered necessary for the purposes of national defence as well as for replying to enquiries regarding such foreigners received from time to time from their relatives. The Registration of Foreigners Act was, accordingly, passed early this year.

It was further considered desirable that, in order that complete information might be available in regard to all foreigners wherever present or resident in India, Indian States should also apply to the State Territory, Acts similar to the British Indian measure.

As the matter was urgent, an emergency Act was passed in June. This Act expires in December 1939, and it is